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DIASSUWCDA 231-83

SUMMARY OF
SIGNIFICANT UNCONVENTIONAL WARFARE
AND CIVIL DISTURBANCE ACTIVITIES
29 November 1983

FRENCH WEST INDIES: FRENCH POLICE WARN U.S. CONSUL OF ASSASSINATION POTENTIAL
(S/NF)

(S/NF) Two senior French security officers in the French West Indies have warned the U.S. Consul at Martinique to increase security, especially for the U.S. Consulate General. Both cited the recent sharp increase in violence in the region and a new, explicit willingness by extremists to kill people. Both officers listed the U.S. Consul General among the five leading potential targets for terrorist violence on the island.

(S/NF) Comment: The U.S. Consul General has commented that security at the Consulate building and residence has been enhanced by temporary additional police protection; however, the overall security situation is very poor. The Consulate has requested prompt armoring of the official vehicle and authorization to hire guards to improve physical security at residence and office. In DIASSUWCDA 226-83, we reported that the pro-independence group, Caribbean Revolutionary Alliance (ARC), had claimed responsibility for a series of bombings on Guadeloupe during the night of 14 November. We noted, at that time, that according to French security officers, the ARC is an alliance rather than an organization, and that the Guadeloupe section is the most experienced in violence. We also noted that the time was approaching when the Martinique ARC contingent might include persons as well as buildings in their list of potential targets. As late as August 1983, alleged ARC bombers struck at four public buildings on Martinique, but seemingly took pains to avoid persons.

WEST GERMANY: UPDATE ON THE RED ARMY FACTION (U)

(U) The U.S. Embassy in Bonn has reported receipt of a letter allegedly from the Red Army Faction (RAF). In the letter, the sender (using the pseudonym "Commando Grdrun Ensslin") threatens attacks against U.S. and West German elements if the redeployment agreement were affirmed by West German authorities. According to official sources, the letter was postmarked on 19 November at Stuttgart and received on 21 November in Bonn. The letter also had displayed a five pointed star with the initials "RAF" superimposed on a submachine gun.

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- The proclamation ends with the declaration "Death to American Imperialism. The struggle continues."

(C) Comment: The American Embassy Athens analysis of the proclamation is that it is the product of an intelligent, and dangerous mind. The author or authors appear to have an insider's knowledge of the Greek press. News sources have reported that the proclamation was apparently typed on the same typewriter used for a message claiming the murder of CIA Station Chief Richard Welch in 1975. Greek security officials report that the investigation continues but with no other new developments. In DIASSUWCDA 223-83 we reported that Captain Tsantes was riding in an official JUSMAGG vehicle bearing diplomatic plates. The USDAO Athens advises that this is incorrect. The official JUSMAGG vehicle was bearing "XA" plates which is the same used on privately-owned vehicles of all non-diplomatically accredited personnel and some U.S. air base personnel.

FRANCE: ANTI-JEWISH BOMBING OF PARIS RESTAURANT (U)

(U) Just after midnight 20 November 1983 a bomb was tossed at a Paris restaurant crowded with diners, but fortunately the perpetrator missed his mark which probably prevented loss of life. Witnesses stated that two men on a motorcycle paused in front of the L'Oree Du Bois Restaurant while one of the men hurled the bomb towards a large banquet room on the second floor. However, the bomb hit a concrete post and exploded on the balcony outside. The isolated restaurant is located in the Boulogne Woods in western Paris near the Longchamps race track. News sources estimate that the two story restaurant was packed with over 300 people, many of them children, who were thrown from their seats by the blast. All the windows in the front of the building were smashed by the blast, and the false ceiling collapsed. Most of the injured were cut by glass from the smashed windows and/or by the falling ceiling. Part of the restaurant's roof also was blown off by the blast. Seven people required hospital treatment; one, a restaurant employee, suffered severe back and leg injuries and was hospitalized but reported not to be critical. At least 12 others, many of them children, were treated at the scene for cuts and shock. No group immediately claimed responsibility for the blast.

(U) Comment: The owner of the restaurant is Jewish. In addition, the restaurant was the site, this past spring, of a press conference by former Israeli Defense Minister Ariel Sharon under tight security. Therefore, the bombing was probably motivated by the recent Israeli air strikes in Lebanon. Jewish owned restaurants in Paris have previously been the target of terrorists. On 9 August 1982, two terrorists opened fire on Goldenberg's Restaurant in the heart of Paris' Jewish quarter, killing six and injuring 21 (see DIASSUWCDA 153-82). That attack was believed to be the work of Abu Nidal's Black June Organization (BJO).

GUADELOUPE: BOMBINGS IN FRENCH CARIBBEAN DEPARTMENTS CONTINUE (U)

(U) A bomb exploded early Sunday, 20 November 1983, outside the police station at Grand-Bourg on the island of Marie-Galante, no injuries were reported. Police investigators said the bomb, described as a medium-powered device, caused substantial property damage. They could not immediately provide an estimate of the damage. It was the third bombing incident in a week in this

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French overseas department. On 14 November, about 20 people were injured when six bombs exploded in Basse-Terre and Point-a-Pitre (see DIASSUWCDA 222-83). Another bomb went off Friday, 18 November, at the La Chaine discotheque, near the town of Gosier. No injuries were reported in the blast.

(U) Comment: The Caribbean Revolutionary Alliance (ARC), a small group seeking independence for three french overseas departments, Martinique, Guadeloupe, and Guiana, claimed responsibility for the 14 November bombings. While no group has claimed responsibility for the latest spate of bombings, police suspect the ARC. ARC has indicated recently that the "armed struggle against the French occupation and their local supporters" has begun. Not surprisingly, the ARC has also indicated that they are fighting "for a free Caribbean, particularly for the brothers in Grenada and against American expansionism." According to French security forces the ARC is an alliance rather than an organization. The Guadeloupe section is the most experienced as it includes persons from the Guadeloupe Liberation Army which was active before the election of Mitterand in 1981. The sections share ideology, material, and training. It is doubted that the Martinique section is ready to attack a person, as opposed to a building, but it is felt that that stage is coming.

SOMALIA: BRIEF ABDUCTION OF FOUR AMERICANS (U)

(C/NF) On 12 November, an armed group of six to eight men, reportedly members of the Somali Democratic Salvation Front (SDSF), abducted four American members of Project Concern International (PCI) and their accompanying Somalis as they were traveling north by vehicle on the border road toward Garoe. The dissidents took the Americans and their vehicle, as well as a Somali police vehicle seized earlier, west toward Ethiopia. When the police vehicle had a blowout, the dissidents abandoned their captures, destroyed the police vehicle, and took the American's vehicle, \$2,800 (U.S.), and all personal and PCI possessions. The Americans and Somalis then proceeded to walk some five hours in severe heat back to the border road. The group reached safety the same day and are recovering.

(C/NF) Comment: It has not yet been determined if the American group was specifically targeted by the dissidents. If so, that, coupled with the decision to hold the Americans once captured, may be evidence of a change in SDSF policy. The incident also gives some cause for concern about the safety of traveling in the border area. The U.S. Embassy is working with the Somalis to improve security for Americans traveling in the interior.

ALGERIA: FOURTEEN ARRESTED FOR ILLEGAL ARMS ACTIVITY (U)

(C/NF) The U.S. Embassy in Algiers recently reported the arrest of 14 persons on charges of illegal currency transactions and with intent to infiltrate arms and munitions into Algeria in order to perpetrate "criminal acts." Embassy sources indicate the number of arrests could be as high as 40-50. The group's objective is said to have been to commit a series of small-scale attacks, probably shootings and bombings, on 1 November - the anniversary of guerrilla operations which launched the Algerian revolution in 1954.

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